

WILLIAM W. TAYLOR

Biography from the Lehi Centennial History

William Whitehead Taylor was born in Tetlow Fold, Oldham, Lancashire, England, December 12, 1828, being the youngest of the seven children of Samuel and Sarah Whitehead Taylor. He had little education, but was fond of books and spent most of his evenings at home reading.

He was converted to the Mormon faith by his brother, James, who presided over the Oldham Conference, and sailed for America September 5, 1849, on the ship "Berlin." During the voyage, cholera broke out and in twenty days forty-five deaths occurred. He landed at New Orleans and proceeded up the river to St. Louis, where In; was met by his brothers, James and Thomas, who had left England the previous year. For two and one-half years he lived at Council Bluffs and suffered much at times for want of food.

On the 6th of April, 1852, Mr. Taylor started for Utah in Isaac Bullock's company While on the plains, he became lost and was found by an Indian, who took him to the Indian encampment and treated him kindly. This hospitable red skin had his squaw provide food for the white man's supper, also skins for a bed, and the next morning conducted him to his own company, also returning two horses which had strayed away. The company reached Salt Lake City, September 25, 1852.

For a year Mr. Taylor lived in Salt Lake City, helping to build the Fifteenth Ward schoolhouse, and to excavate for the temple, whose corner stone he saw laid and dedicated.

In October, 1853, he moved to Lehi, where he has since led a busy and industrious life. For a time he followed farming, taking the Fotheringham farm on

shares, later becoming the owner of this and several other valuable pieces of real estate. In connection with his brother Thomas he founded the mercantile firm of T. and W. Taylor, which conducted the first store in Lehi. During the latter years of his life, he engaged in the dairying business.

In 1853, he married Nannie Standring, who was born in Layton, Lancashire, England, July 24, 1826, being the daughter of James and Mary Halliwell Standring; and four years later he married Charlotte E. Leggett, a daughter of Conrad and Louisa Leggett, who was born October 9, 1837, in Ohio, and who was the mother of five children.

In May, 1855, he was a member of the White Mountain expedition and from the spring of 1869 to the fall of 1870, was absent upon a mission to England, where he labored as traveling elder in the Manchester conference, and afterward presided successively over that and the Leeds conference. He returned home on account of ill health.

He was secretary of the Lehi Dramatic Association, the pioneer dramatic organization, and one of the leading players. He was at one time a member of the City Council and also connected with the local military organization. Although he preferred a quiet life and was never much of a public man, yet he was one of the staunch and sturdy men of the community, ever ready to help in every worthy cause.

Charlotte E. L. Taylor died February 20, 1909. Nannie S. Taylor died June 15, 1913. Wm. W. Taylor died November 17, 1907.